

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GABORO 00905 031458Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ICAE-00 SSO-00 CPR-01 PM-05 OPR-02

PA-01 SS-15 SY-05 A-01 NSCE-00 /041 W

-----085882 031500Z /53

O 031307Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1915

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 0905

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP BC (PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KHAMA'S VISIT TO U.S.

REF: A) GABORONE 650 B) GABORONE 715

1. A MONTH HAS NOW PASSED SINCE GOB INFORMED US (REF A) OF HARVARD'S DECISION TO AWARD HONORARY DEGREE TO PRESIDENT KHAMA AT COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES NOW JUST TWO MONTHS AWAY. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ALTHOUGH REQUEST REF B WAS ONLY FOR AN HOUR'S APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT CARTER, WE COULD NOT AVOID THE TOILS OF BUREAUCRACY. STILL, COMING FROM A GOOD FRIEND WHO HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE HELPFUL AS FRONT LINE PRESIDENT IN PROMOTING PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO NAMIBIAN AND RHODESIAN ISSUES, AND IN VIEW OF CONCERN EXPRESSED IN "NEW POLICY INITIATIVES IN AFRICA" PAPER (77 STATE 311031), WE HAD HOPED OUR MODEST REQUEST MIGHT BE FAVORABLY ACTED UPON WITHIN REASONABLE TIME.

2. GOB REPS HAVE INQUIRED AGAIN RECENTLY-(AND STILL POLITELY--ALTHOUGH THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR DRAWING UP DETAILS OF PRESIDENT KHAMA'S TRAVELS ARE CLEARLY BECOMING IMPATIENT AND NEED PLANNING TIME. MORE PARTICULARLY, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT KHAMA IS ASKED TO RECEIVE ME SEVERAL TIMES A WEEK ON NAMIBIA, RHODESIA AND/OR OTHER MATTERS, IT IS BECOMING

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PAGE 02 GABORO 00905 031458Z

A SOURCE OF EMBARRASSMENT NOT TO BE ABLE TO REPLY.

3. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE GREATLY APPRECIATED, ASSUMING THAT ALL SIGNS ARE FAVORABLE, IF I COULD BE AUTHORIZED TO SAY (A) HOUR'S APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT CARTER HAS BEEN AGREED TO IN PRINCIPLE DURING THE PERIOD JUNE 4,5 OR 6 (MONDAY, TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY) IN

WASHINGTON; AND (B) THAT EXACT TIME WILL BE WORKED OUT
AND COMMUNICATED AS SOON AS CAN BE ARRANGED.
NORLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

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